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in China, I was informed. He was 11 years old and in the second grade. This case I believe might be regarded as an imported one. This class of aliens, sons of natives, are not subject to medical inspection at the immigrant station. The case of trachoma diagnosed at the Washington School was a girl, 10 years old, in the second grade, who had been to school but one day. She had been in the county about a year, and stated that she had "granulated lids" in Missouri, whence she came to Tulare County.

The case at the Lincoln School was a girl, 9 years old, a native of Tulare County and never out of the district. She was one of five children, none of whom other than herself had trachoma. The origin of this case could not be traced.

In the Outside Creek School a similar case was observed, a boy, 11 years old, a native of Tulare County, whose brother, also examined, had not trachoma.

In the Farmersville School was observed the doubtful case, a boy, 13 years old, who had been three years in Tulare County, coming from Texas. This was one of those cases that require treatment to confirm a diagnosis.

In the Union School the case of trachoma was a young Mexican, 10 years old, from whom nothing could be learned, as he spoke little English. He lived on a farm near Farmersville. This case was probably imported, either directly or indirectly.

Of the six cases of trachoma, counting the doubtful case as one of trachoma, two only were natives of the county, the other four being imported cases. It appears that the disease has not spread to any extent.

CONTAMINATED VEGETABLES.

THE USE OF NIGHT SOIL IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN AS A POSSIBLE DISSEMINATOR OF DISEASE.

By J. D. LONG, Surgeon, United States Public Health Service.

It is customary in investigations to discover the causes operative in the production of outbreaks of typhoid fever, to inquire, among other things, as to whether persons who have been attacked by the disease have used fresh or uncooked vegetables as part of their diet during the two or three weeks prior to the onset of the disease.

The reason for making such inquiry is that in some localities vegetable gardens have been handled in such an insanitary manner that they have become a danger to the community, not only for the reason that typhoid fever can be spread through the agency of vegetables, but because other serious diseases, such as amebic dysentery and bacillary dysentery, may be transmitted in the same manner.

It has been the custom in the Orient, for no one knows how many years, to use night soil as a fertilizer in vegetable gardens. In fact, the practice is so common that there is a regularly established traffic in this commodity, and owners and operators of vegetable gardens, in addition to carefully saving the excrement of themselves, their families, and laborers, make periodical trips to the nearest market for the purpose of purchasing such additional material as may be needed. An understanding of this custom will make plain the reason why disease, due to practices of this kind, is common in oriental countries.

The method of using the material varies in different localities. The practice is first to mix a certain amount with the soil at or near the time of planting the seed; then at later periods, when the vegetables are growing, to sprinkle a thin solution of night soil from a sprinkling can over the growing vegetables. In certain portions of the Orient it is a common thing to see a laborer walking between rows of young vegetables with a bamboo pole over his shoulder from each end of which there hangs a sprinkling can. The streams from these cans are carefully directed onto the tops of the young vegetables, and two rows can thus be treated at one time.

In certain portions of the United States it is not uncommon to use sewage as it issues from the sewerage system of cities or towns for irrigation purposes, either by diverting it into a channel which leads through the garden, or by dipping it from polluted streams, vaults or vats, and applying it. In several communities, owners of large vegetable gardens collect night soil, and furnish, clean, and change the pails or receptacles, free of charge to the householder. In these instances the matter collected is usually mixed with the earth of the garden.

It has been found that vegetables grown in soil infected with the germ of typhoid fever had the germs of the disease upon the leaves and stems 31 days after the soil was infected, and the same germ was found in the ground itself 35 days after it was infected. Rainfall and sunlight did not kill or remove the germs.

HOW HAWAII HANDLES HER SANITARY PROBLEMS.

By GEORGE W. MCCOY, Surgeon, United States Public Health Service.

The Territory of Hawaii is made up of a group of islands lying in the Pacific Ocean about 2,200 miles from the coast of the United States and in about the same latitude as Hongkong, Habana, and Calcutta. The climate of the group is remarkable for the very small variation in temperature. At Honolulu, the capital, the difference between the extreme winter minimum and the extreme summer maximum is only about 27° F., and the greatest daily range is 16° F.